



THE OK-POWER LABEL CRITERIA & CERTIFICATION PROCESS

Nov. 2024 | Certification office ok-power



1. ABOUT OK-POWER

- non-profit organisation
- founded in 2000
- purpose: guidance for consumers when choosing green electricity tariffs with energy transition benefits

Institutional members:



Oko-Institut e.V.



HIR Hamburg Institut
Research gGmbH

Facts & Figures 2024

- 44 certified products
- 41 providers +
39 distributors
- 4,1 TWh certified electricity

Board of director



Dominik Seebach
(Öko-Institut e. V.)



Helfried Meinel
(Öko-Institut e. V.)

... quality eco-electricity

The label certifies green electricity tariffs from 100% renewable resources which are proven to make an additional contribution to the success of the energy transition.

... transparency

Certification is based on strict and standardised criteria. These are as public as the names of the power plants from which the electricity originates. The ok-power label is re-certified every year, so fulfilment of the criteria must be proven annually.

... neutrality

Both the certification and the ok-power tariff portal are independent. This means that they are not influenced in any way by supplier interests, advertising or commissions.

... trust

With the ok-power label, the non-profit organisation EnergieVision e.V. aims to support environmental and consumer protection in the energy industry as well as the energy transition. This is ensured, for instance, by a criteria advisory board with qualified experts from the energy transition.

... sustainability

The ok-power label signals consumers that the certified electricity tariff guarantees to contribute to the development of renewable energies. They can be sure that the provider is not financially involved in nuclear power plants, brown coal power plants or new hard coal power plants.



2. OK-POWER CRITERIA

mandatory criteria

ownership structure of eco-electricity provider	consumer protection	environmental requirements upon eco-electricity production plants
---	---------------------	---

elective criteria

Purchasing guarantees of origin from new plants or PPA	Initiation & operation of new renewable energy production plants	crediting new-construction projects that did not gain contracts	eligibility for generation from renewable energy, including, but not limited to, previously supported plants <i>Currently not approved for more detail see criteria catalogue</i>	support for innovative energy transition projects
--	--	---	--	---

Ownership structure of eco-electricity providers

- No significant investments in **nuclear or coal-fired (lignite, hard coal) power plants**
- Downstream investment: no significant **indirect or direct stake of 1 % or more**
- Upstream investment: no **significant indirect or direct stake of 50 % or more**

Consumer protection

- No minimum purchasing quantity for the customers
- No fixed volume packages
- No advance payments

Requirements for electricity production plants

- Certified products must be sourced 100% from renewable plants
- Generally, power plants from solar radiation energy, wind power, sewage gas and geothermal energy (outside protected areas) are eligible for recognition

ELECTIVE CRITERIA 1: GO'S FROM NEW POWER PLANTS (UNSUBSIDISED)

Age structure of the electricity mix

- At least **33%** of the green electricity supplied to end customers comes from new plants.

- Age limits for additional new plants:

Hydropower	8 years
Wind power	4 years
Photovoltaic	5 years
Biomass	4 years
Geothermal	8 years

Power Purchase Agreements (PPA)

- If the GO's come from plants financed through **PPA**, the age limits increase in accordance with the terms of PPA, across all technologies to a maximum of 8 years

Subsidisation of power plants

- The supplying power plants must not receive any governmental funding and must not be eligible for funding in accordance with governmental support schemes (like the German EEG)

Recognition of re-investment plants

- With re-investment measures or large investments in maintenance, some electricity production can be recognized as electricity from new power plants

ELECTIVE CRITERIA 1: GO'S FROM NEW POWER PLANTS (UNSUBSIDISED)

Example:

Company U has **30,000,000 kWh** certified for 2024.

For at least **33%, i.e. 10,000,000 kWh**, of this certified electricity volume, GO's must be procured from **unsubsidised new plants**.

Possible purchase of electricity from (unsubsidised) new plants:

- 2,500,000 kWh from 3-year-old wind turbines
- 5,000,000 kWh from a 7-year-old hydropower plant
- 2,500,000 kWh from a 30-year-old hydropower plant with recognised reinvestment

GO's must also be procured for **the remaining 20,000,000 kWh**.



Advantages of the criteria

- Uncomplicated certification
- Can be integrated into standard sourcing processes

Requirements for green electricity sales

- At least **50 % of the eco-electricity sales** certified under this criterion are generated in new renewable energy plants initiated by the certification holder.
- The initiated electricity volume has a minimum share of **33% of the overall sales** to households and small commercial customers.

Eligibility of power plants

- Example:

If an eco-electricity provider sells a plant after initiating it, 100% of the projected annual output can be recognised each year over a period of four years.

Contribution	Year after commencement of operation	Recognised production in year
Initiation + own operating	1. - 4.	100 %
	5. - 10.	66 %
Initiation (with subsequent sale / without own operation)	1. - 4.	100 %

ELECTIVE CRITERIA 2: INITIATION AND OPERATION OF NEW PLANTS

Example:

Company U has total sales (to households and small commercial customers) of **60,000,000 kWh/a**

It **has 40,000,000 kWh certified for 2024** according to the initiation criterion.

40,000,000 kWh must be deposited with GO's.

The initiated systems must generate at least 50% of the certified green electricity sales:

- **20,000,000 kWh/a**
- Initiated electricity volume = **33 %** of total sales

Company U has initiated two plants:

Plant A was initiated one year ago and supplies 8,000,000 kWh/a.

Plant B was initiated six years ago and supplies 19,000,000 kWh/a.

The quantity from plant A is recognised at 100 %, the quantity from plant B at 66 %. This results in an **initiation output of 20,540,000 kWh**.



Advantages of the criteria

- Existing commitment of the electricity generator is recognised
- Commitment can be used for sales and marketing purposes

Requirements for green electricity sales

- **This criterion may cover a maximum of 50 %** of the total certification quantity.
- Recognition of 4 % of the planned investment amount as stranded investment if the provider is not selected in the tender.
- Project development costs can be counted only once and may be spread over a period of 4 years at most.

Calculation of the subsidies

- 0.3 cents per kWh in general
- 0.2 cents per kWh if the supplier certifies its entire sales volume and waives the use of the ok-power-plus label

Advantages of the criteria

- Provider's commitment to the energy transition through participation in tenders is recognised and acknowledged for certification.

ELECTIVE CRITERIA 3: NEW CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS WITHOUT CONTRACTS

Example:

Company U has not been accepted for a new construction project with a total volume **of € 7,500,000.**

ok-power recognises **4%** of these costs as project planning costs. This corresponds **to € 300,000.**

Company U has not certified the entire sales volume with ok-power.

Company U can have 1 kWh recognised for **0.3** cents of recognised project planning costs.

In this case, this corresponds to **100,000,000 kWh.** Company U must also certify at least 100,000,000 kWh using other criteria.

Company V has certified the entire sales volume with the ok-power label and **refrains** from using the **ok-power-plus label.**

Company V can have 1 kWh recognised for **0.2** cents of recognised project planning costs. In this case, this corresponds to **150,000,000 kWh.**

Company V must also certify **at least 150,000,000 kWh using other criteria.**

ELECTIVE CRITERIA 4: GO'S FROM PREVIOUSLY SUPPORTED PLANTS

Requirements for the electricity mix

- At least **33 %** of the certified quantity originates from wind power plants GO's whose support has expired.
- Examination of eligibility for recognition of other technologies.
- Some plants (e.g. in Austria) already fulfil this criterion today.

Advantages of the criteria

- Uncomplicated and simple implementation
- Clearly visible contribution to the energy transition

Currently not approved
for more detail see criteria
catalogue

ELECTIVE CRITERIA 4: GO'S FROM PREVIOUSLY SUPPORTED PLANTS

Example:

The electricity provider has certified **30,000,000 kWh** for 2024 according to this criterion.

At least **33% of the GO's** for this certified quantity of electricity must come from previously supported plants.

The subsidy for plant A expired in 2023.

Company U procures **10,000,000 kWh** from plant A in 2024.

For the **remaining 20,000,000 kWh**, GO's must also be procured.

Currently not approved
for more detail see criteria
catalogue

Requirements

- The electricity provider invests at least **0.3 ct/kWh** sold as a subsidy for innovative projects .
- The support contribution can be **saved for up to 3 years**.
- Actions / projects must be **approved in advance** by EnergieVision e.V..
- Must be inspected by an **auditor**.

Requirements for innovative energy transition projects

- Accelerating or qualitative effect on the energy transition
- High quality & efficiency standards
- No industry-standard measures

Investment in

- Own projects
- Cooperation projects with third parties / financing of third-party measures
- Joint projects of several providers

Examples for suitable measures

- Efficiency measures
- Innovative storage technologies
- Flexibilisation in the electricity system, such as development & introduction of software
- Tenant electricity models & educational measures

Example:

Company U certifies **10,000,000 kWh** via the investment in innovative projects criterion.
Accordingly, Company U pays € **30,000** into an innovation fund.

Company U uses this money to **carry out projects** recognised by ok-power that meet the above requirements.



Advantages of the criteria

- Acquisition of new customers through local projects
- Strengthening of the company's reputation
- No dependency on new plant GO's
- Gain in credibility

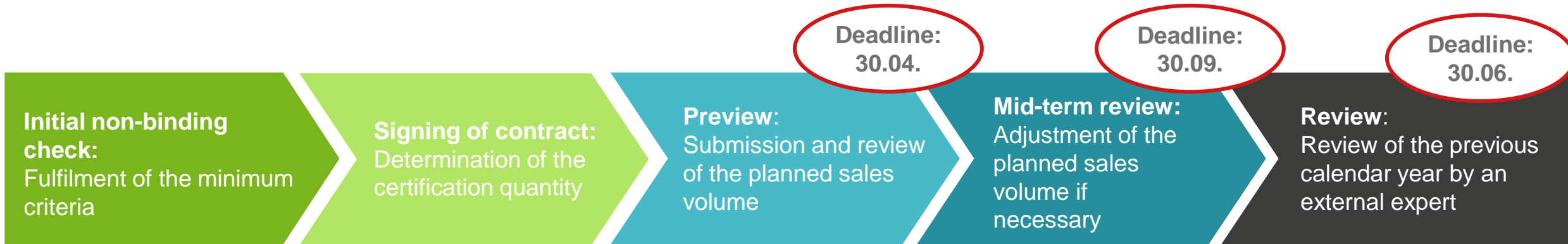
- The ok-power-plus label certifies green electricity tariffs from **100% green electricity providers**.
- All households and small commercial customers (generally up to 30.000 kWh p.a.) are supplied with 100 % ok-power-certified eco-electricity.
- While ok-power is purely a product label that is given to individual green electricity tariffs, ok-power-plus combines **product and supplier label** in an **exclusive certification**.



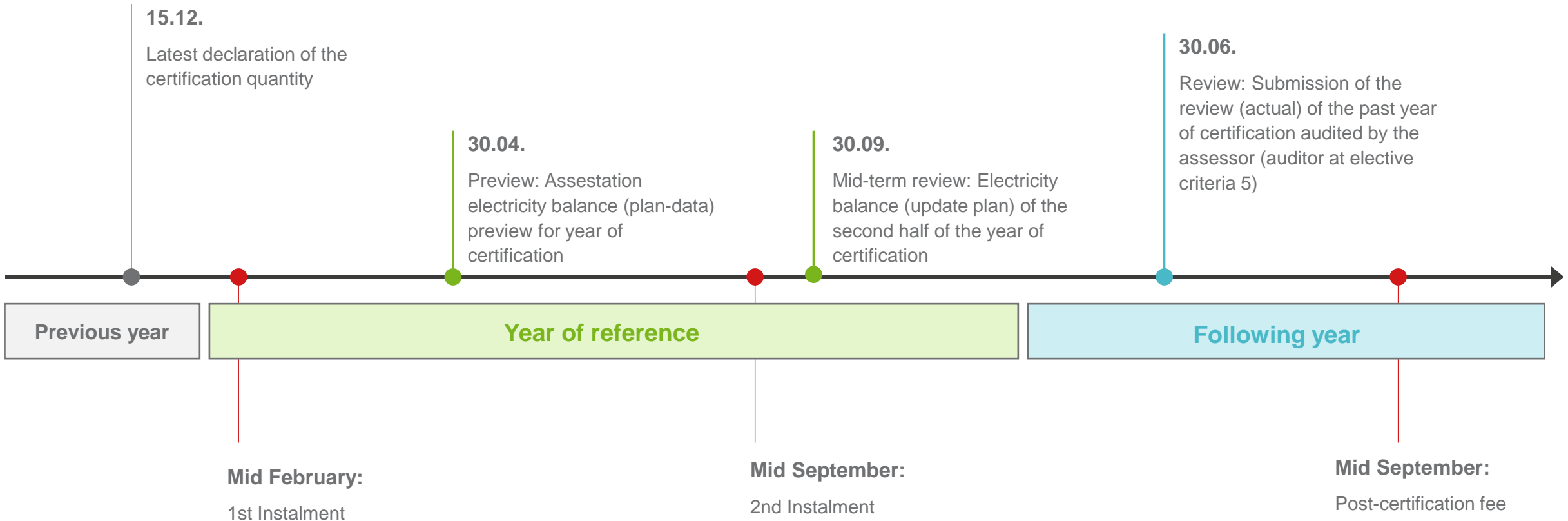


3. CERTIFICATION PROCESS

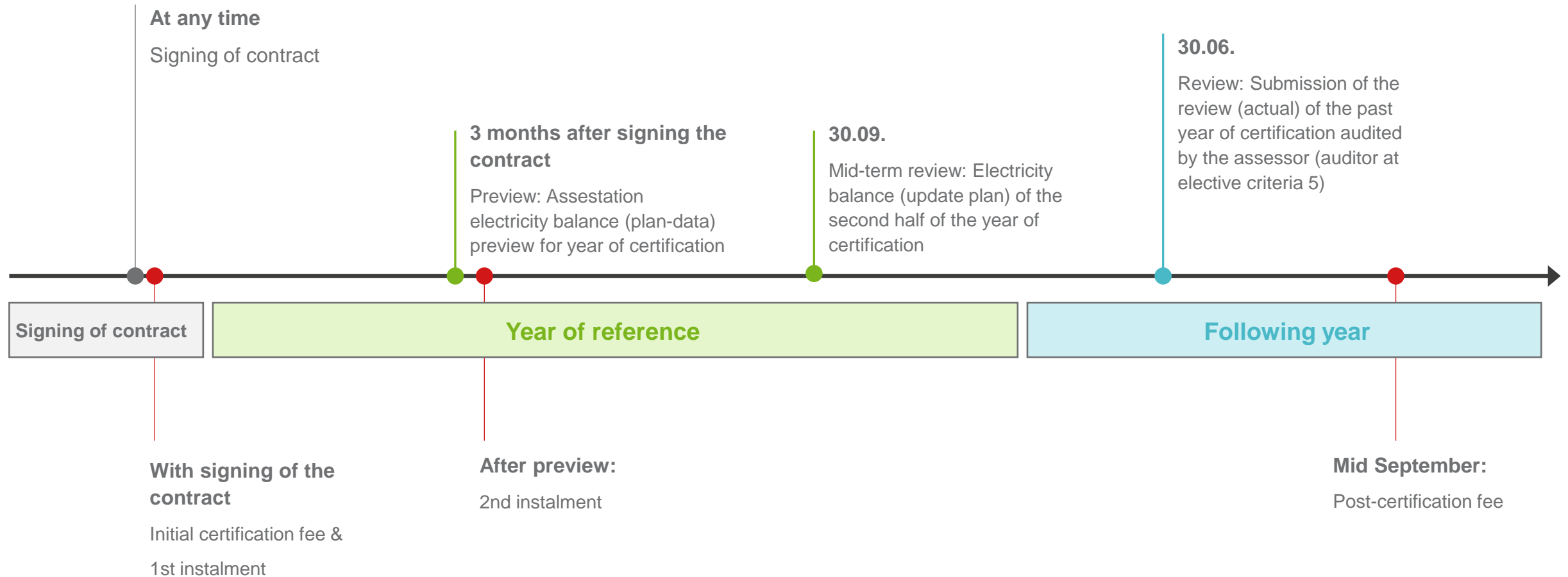
PROCESS OF THE CERTIFICATION



DEADLINES AND PROCESS OF THE CERTIFICATION YEAR



CERTIFICATION PROCESS FOR A NEW PROVIDER



YOUR CONTACT PERSONS - WE LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING FURTHER!



Robert Werner

Head of the certification office

Phone: +49 (0)40 3910 6989-24
werner@ok-power.de



Pia Kretz

Management of certification

Phone: +49 (0)40 3910 6989-71
kretz@ok-power.de

Stay up to date!

Subscribe to our newsletter.



www.ok-power.de/infothek-lexikon/newsletter.html